

ADULT SERVICES POLICY COUNCIL

Mission Statement: "Working together to meet the health and human service needs of adults and seniors."

Chair: Cindy Marie Absey (805) 781- 5822, FAX 543-1305, cabsey@co.slo.ca.us
Ann Travers (805) 772-6460, atravers@co.slo.ca.us

Agenda
April 7, 2006
Vets Hall Lounge
801 Grand Avenue, SLO

INTROCUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORRECTIONS / ADDITIONS TO THE SYNOPSIS

PUBLIC COMMENT—LIMIT TO 5 MINUTES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Updates from the Health Agency-Marsha Bollinger

Reorganization

Mental Health-Implementation of Mental Health Services Act

Possible closure of Atascadero clinic

Public Health-Needle exchange/pharmacy selling syringes

AB1363, Ombudsman Conservatorship and Guardianship Act

Angie King, Senior Legal Services, Gloria Galetka, Private Fiduciary,

Lisa Niesen, Public Guardian

Care Giver Licensing Committee-New Chair

Officers for 2006-2007

Chair-Cindy Marie Absey

1st Vice Chair-Marsha Bollinger

2nd Vice Chair-Karen Stenson

NO MEETING ON MAY 5, 2006

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING THE ELDER ABUSE SEMINAR:

"RELUCTANCE TO REPORT ELDER ABUSE"

Paso Robles Culinary Arts Building, 1900 Golden Hills Road

Call Karen Stenson for more information: 785-0132

The next meeting is June 2, 2006

9-11 a.m.

2975 McMillan Road, San Luis Obispo

Suite 164 (The big conference room)

Adult Services Policy Council

SYNOPSIS April 7, 2006 MEETING

NAME	AGENCY	Representative / Guest
Absey, Cindy Marie	Victim / Witness Assistance, DA's Office	Representative
Amanzio, Janet	Mental Health Services	Representative
Bacus, Larry	Community Health Centers	Representative
Basti, Martin	Sheriff's Department	Representative
Bates, Meredith	Bates Care Management, Representative	Representative
Bollinger, Marsha	HIV Care Consortium / Public Health Department	Representative
Brown, Tyler	Mental Health Board	Representative
Chamousis, Penny	Health Commission	Representative
Cherry, Eve	Economic Opportunity Commission	EOC
Crabaugh, Pam	Tri-Counties Regional Center	Representative
Gannon, John Ph.D	Drug & Alcohol Advisory Board	Representative
Hughes, Gary	Mental Health Board	MHB
Johnson, Barry	Transitions-Mental Health Association	Representative
Judd, Lillian	Economic Opportunity Commission	Representative
Kahn, Edie	AIDS Support Network	Representative
King, Angie	Adult Abuse Prevention Council	Representative
lippman, joyce ellen	Area Agency on Aging	Representative
McLean, Colleen	Commission on Aging	Representative
Mendelson, Evan	HOTLINE	Representative
Miller, Mary	Health Ombudsman	Representative
Lisa Niesen	Public Guardian	Representative
Piepenburg, Michael	Veterans' Services	Representative
Sampson, Helen	Life Steps Foundation/Linkages	Representative
Stenson, Karen	Long Term Care Ombudsman	Representative
Thiesmeyer, Mja	San Luis Obispo County District Attorney	DA's Office
Travers, Ann	Supportive Housing Consortium Adult Services/DSS	Representative
Galetka, Gloria	Private Conservator	Guest

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Policy Council will be presenting its 2005 Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors on the morning of Tuesday 5/2. The Board will be presenting a proclamation to Cindy Marie proclaiming May as Older Americans Month. If you are able, please attend.

All of the following events and workshops are posted on the ASPC website at:

www.countyofslo.org/ASPC

- Caregiver Retreat, 5/20
- AAPC Abuse Conference, 5/5
- Opening Minds, an art show, 5/2 – 12
- Homeless Awareness Week, 4/24 – 28
- Women's Way to Wealth, 5/20

The Disaster Preparedness Workshop for community based agencies and long term care facilities is scheduled for June 29th at the Vets Hall from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. The cost will be \$20.00. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Karen Stenson for details.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A public hearing is scheduled for the morning of 4/11 at the Board of Supervisors meeting to request that the Board approve the governance and operational changes to the IHSS Public Authority, requested by the Department of Social Services. **Postponed to 5/16**

ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES - None.

Health Agency Update:

Merger of Public Health with Behavioral Health. Jess Montoya, the current Public Health Director resigned his position in April. Jeff Hamm will become the new Public Health Director as of May 1. The change in Directors may effect the scheduled merger. The merger will combine the personnel, automation, finance and administrative functions of these departments. There will be a Health Agency Director and Deputy Directors for Public Health and Behavioral Health (Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Services). Marsha will continue to update the Policy Council on the merger.

CHC services. CHC is continuing to recruit new physicians. Local specialists are beginning to approach CHC to refer CHC clients for services. The transition of lab services from the county lab to Healthline is progressing.

Implementation of the Mental Services Act (Prop 63). The state has approved the County Plan. Funding will start as soon as the state gives final approval. Mental Health will create Full Service Partnerships teams to provide intensive 24-hour services for up to 12 adults who meet the criteria. There will be two teams for adults and one team for seniors. Each team will consist of two staff with help from psychiatrist, family advocate, geriatric specialist, and community service providers who work with these consumers. Although Mental Health is receiving these new monies, funding for current mental health services is under funded by \$1 million.

Action Item: The members approved a motion to send the Board of Supervisors a letter requesting that funding for Mental Health be provided to maintain current the level of services for fiscal year 2006/07.

Needle Exchange Program. The Board of Supervisors has approved the creation of a needle exchange program. Persons could hand in needles to local pharmacies and receive up to 10 new

syringes. Although the program has been approved, law enforcement has some concerns re: encouraging the use of drugs, more drugs on the street, use by persons on parole or probation. Supervisor Lenthall has convened a workgroup of public health staff and law enforcement to work through these concerns and return to the Board with the implementation plan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Crisis Intervention Committee: The committee is collecting information on what crisis intervention training is currently available.

Caregiver Licensing Committee: A new committee chair is needed. If you would like to volunteer please contact Ann Travers at 772-6460.

ACTION Survey Committee: No new information.

Election of officers for 2006/07. The current officers have agreed to serve another year.

Cindy Marie Absey, Chair
Marsha Bollinger, Vice Chair
Karen Stenson, Vice Chair

Action Item: The members approved the slate of officers.

OMNIBUS CONSERVATORSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP REFORM ACT

Presentation.

Angie King, Senior Legal Services
Gloria Galetka, private conservator
Lisa Niesen, Public Guardian's Office

Assembly Bill 1363 (Dave Jones) creates a set of comprehensive reforms to regulate conservators and guardians, improve court review, increase services of the Public Guardian, improve education and training, provide assistance to non-professional conservators, and provide independent systemic oversight through an Ombudsman. This is proposed state legislation.

A conservatorship of person and/or estate is granted by a judge and gives the conservator legal authority to act for the conservatee. When a conservatorship is put in place the individual loses some civil rights like ability to decide where to live or how to use their money. A conservator may be a family member, friend, private conservator, lawyer or the Public Guardian.

This proposed state legislation was prompted by a series of articles in the LA times that documents how some conservators have abused their conservatees.

The association of Public Guardians is currently opposed to the legislation because it does not provide the funding needed to implement the legislation. If Public Guardian's Offices will be required to take any cases referred to them for a conservatorship, they will need to increase their staff and resources. The association is working with bill sponsors to resolve this issue. The local Public Guardian's office has over 100 conservatees.

Gloria Galetka, a private conservator, supports the legislation. She receives requests from lawyers, family members and APS to become the conservator. She provides financial assistance and "case management" services for her clients. She can place a client in a long-term care facility. She must provide a financial accounting to the local court investigators. She agrees that better oversight is needed. There are criteria in place for local registered private conservators but not licensing.

This legislation may not solve all problems but it is a good first step.

Action item. Members approved a motion to send a letter to the state supporting the legislation and requesting that the sponsors work with the association of Public Guardians.

There will be no meeting in May.

We encourage members to attend the Abuse Conference on 5/5. Please contact Angie King or Karen Stenson for details.

June 2nd

We will be meeting with representatives of our state and federal legislators. Please be ready to discuss the needs of your constituents and any proposed legislation that affects them.